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FIELD DIARY

Mr. *Vernon Bailey*  
*Washington D.C.*

(Official title.)

*Oregon, 1930*  
Period, \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

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Nov. 21 Portland, Oregon <sup>1930</sup>

Arrived at Portland 7:35 AM  
and went to Hoyt Hotel across  
the street from the post office.

Got a much needed bath and  
started on field reports for Washington.

Nov. 22 - Wrote all day,

Lunched at Oyster loaf and  
panned Olympia oysters, delicious.

Nov. 23 - Sunday. Went to  
Jewett's for dinner and had  
wonderful view of Mt. Hood and  
St Helens.

Warm and smoking of  
lots of cedar and Chrysothamnus  
in blossom.

Nov. 24 - Portland to Eugene.

Had Conference with Jewett and Gabrielson and Bach in forenoon. Went to lunch with Jewett & Brailuy and saw Brailuy's egg and skin collection the most perfect I ever saw. with many rare species.

At 3 P M. started for Eugene with Elmer Williams with his Ford roadster truck and arrived 6:15, 124 miles on good roads with a good driver and comfortable car. Met Chester Hight and trappers at Eugene and planned trip for tomorrow.

Wonderful view of Hood and St. Helens & Adams & the peak of Jefferson but dark before we reached a view of Three Sisters warm and pleasant.

1930  
Nov. 25, Eugene, Oregon.

Started out for poison line at 8 AM  
west of Raccoon Cottage Grove. Followed  
trail for 4 miles over ridges in  
heavy timber with Chestnut Height <sup>to the terrain</sup>.  
No bait stations used but poison  
in lead balls had been placed  
along the sides of trail through  
woods. Many were found, some  
were missing, a few had been  
nibbled by mice or squirrels.  
One Peromyscus gambeli found  
dead near a bait was all we  
found but half a dozen Coyotes  
had previously been found along  
this line. We saw remains of two  
that had not been saved.

Mr. Hout reports 100 coyotes taken  
in this region in four years  
but probably as many were  
killed by poison as not food.  
Only 14 trapped.

Chester Hight Eugene.

Coyotes, 100 in fur traps, only 14 in traps  
probably as many was poisoned out of  
lucernous - 4 taken, all poisoned  
Skunks - not over six, all poisoned.  
Spilogale - 3 poisoned.  
Peromyscus - A few poisoned  
~~Beaver not poisoned~~  
Canis - one poisoned  
Deer - One caught in trap yesterday.  
Bear - 1 poisoned and 2 trapped  
Dogs - a few poisoned  
Blue grouse, One caught in Coyote trap.  
Oregon Robin, One caught in trap  
trap.

Many sheep, goats, deer, and  
game birds killed by Coyotes.  
Droppings found along trail

Returned to Eugene at  
1 P M and saw County Agent  
in afternoon. Mr. Fisher,  
Has given out no poison.

Saw county Judge and petition  
he had received against using poison  
in Lin. Co. signed by 93 residents  
of Row River Valley, S E of Eugene.  
This is a good deer country and  
everybody keeps hounds for running  
deer. They also keep sheep but are  
wore for their hounds. It is  
a region long famous for poachers  
and settled by old timers.

They say the poison kills more  
fur bearing and valuable animals  
than the coyotes. They want  
to use "varmint dogs" for hunting  
coyotes, cats, and corgas and  
prefer to control such animals  
themselves. Let em.

But they want to cut out any

money in the county budget for coyote  
control and leave the rest of the  
county without protection.  
Another hearing will be held tomorrow.

Chas. Hight keeps coyotes  
down to practically harmless numbers  
in two large counties Lane and  
Linn, really controlling them  
in half of Western Oregon as  
no other trappers operate nearer  
them Marshfield and Rogue River  
Valley. To cover this large  
area he uses poison almost entirely  
all the year around and places  
a line for some local farmer  
to go over and keep watch of.  
He also gives out prepared  
poison baits to many sheep  
men and farmers to use on  
or near their own places.  
This an exceedingly economical  
and efficient method of control  
and enables one man to cover  
a large territory.

He says there are no wolves,  
no hink, no foxes in his area

He gets a very few coons, skunks and Spilogale but of little value at any time.

Keeping the coyotes under control has kept deer abundant and we saw numerous tracks today where they had followed the trail and eaten all the fresh mushrooms they could find. Cattle and sheep also eat them as do squirrels and mice and many birds. They are very numerous and of many kinds. Largely Russula, Boletus, Caerul, fairy rings and a snow white form I never saw before.

Went through miles of wonderful ancient, untamed woods. full of ferns and the ground carpeted with Hypnum and other masses.

A heavy frost in morning, the first, but many cases of Chupautimons were not killed. A warm clear day. Collected many Coyote droppings.

Nov. 26 - Eugene up McKingie River  
Chester Hight took me up.  
The McKingie River about 15 miles  
to Frank Haagen's farm just  
across the river from the road.  
Went over a poison line but  
where 6 or 7 coyotes had been  
killed but found only one dead  
and very old *Spilogale*.

Got plenty of coyote droppings  
mostly made up of goated deer hair.

Saw a lot of fresh deer tracks.  
several ruff grouse, one  
mountain quail.

Returned to Eugene at noon  
and to Portland at night.

Mr. Haagen keeps several  
hundred sheep and has just  
sold his flock of goats.

Has a beautiful place of 1400  
acres, meads, falls, springs, forest,  
lakes, bottomlands & good crops.



Dogs kill more sheep than do coyotes.  
Lane pays 3000 or 4000 dollars a  
year for sheep killed by dogs as long  
as the dog tax money lasts. Linn Co.  
about the same. Most of the dogs  
are kept for raising deer, some  
for variant dogs & coon hunting.

Last fall a police dog got left  
by an automobile near Cottage  
Grove and went wild, killing  
27 sheep & goats before it was  
poisoned - probably were not found.

Two years ago a police dog  
near Grants Pass killed a child  
and tore it all to pieces.

They are much worse than coyotes  
or wolves when uncontrollable.  
Are only half tamed wolves.

On return trip, to Portland  
9 California jackrabbits were counted  
crushed in the road between  
Eugene and Salem, all freshly  
killed within a day or two.  
None seen alive.

Killdeer - 2 in field near Salem  
Mourning Doves - 3 near Albany.

Nov. 27 Thanksgiving Day,  
Finished my writing,  
packed baggage for trip,  
Went to Jewett's for Thanksgiving  
dinner

Packed two cans of coyote  
droppings to go by mail.

Nov. 28, Portland to Grass Valley.  
Left Portland at 10 AM  
with Elmer Williams and drove  
up the Columbia Highway to  
The Dalles, then to Dufur to see  
trapper Mayhew. He had just put  
in one coyote and did not  
expect any more today on his  
poison line so we went on  
across the Des Chutes at  
Shearers Bridge and east to  
Grass Valley where trapper  
Stone has out a lot of baits.  
Arranged to go with him  
in morning and went to hotel  
for night.

Foggy and misty in morning but  
cleared up until we struck foot  
and fog on the high country  
near Dufur. Frost and fog  
again on hills east of Des Chutes.  
but not much snow.

Nov. 29 - Left Grass Valley at  
8 AM and went over trap line  
with trapper. Stopped along the  
crest of west rim of John Day  
Canyon and at head of big  
gulch leading down to west.  
Examined 3 of his poison stations but  
got only one coyote and found  
two eagles eating it. They had  
torn the skin to shreds and eaten  
most of the meat and insides.  
Only the scalp could be saved.  
It was about 100 yards from the  
dead horse where poisoned.

Ravens were eating on both  
the other horses, 6 on one and 2 on  
the other. None had been killed as yet  
but they soon will be.

Saw a few magpies and later  
in the day on Willow Creek below  
Huffman a flock of 100 or more magpies.  
Saw a few along the road and a few nests.

Starches Geese - About 1,000 seen on sandbars and in still pools in the Columbia and one flock of 50 near Moro over the high prairie where they feed in the stubble and growing grain fields.

Ducks. A few in Columbia River

Eagles - 2 seen eating coyote, probably Golden. Destroy many coyote skins.

Ravens - About a dozen seen.

Very numerous and feed along cliffs of Columbia & probably kill young geese.

Maggies - A few seen along way and one flock of 100 or more below Heppner.

Sparrows - 1 seen on Willow Creek

Horned larks - A few seen near Grass Valley and Moro.

Juncos - many seen.

Got lunch at Moro and then drove down the highway to the Columbia and up it to Heppner and up Willow Creek to Heppner arriving at 5 P.M. after dark.

Was much impressed by the deep canyons and side gulches with steep grassy slopes that can be used only by sheep. Many farms are half good wheat land and half good sheep land and many sheep are kept by the best farmers as well as by some large sheep men who make this their business.

Farmers are generally prosperous and have good homes with a variety of stock and poultry and the control of coyotes magpies and ravens is important for all of them.

Talked with a sheep farmer near Moro, Mr. May, and saw how important sheep are for steep lands.

In evening at Hepler met the County Agent, Chas W Smith, and he assured me that no poison was given out except to well known cooperators.

Met a number of sheep owners who were loud in their praise of the B.S. control of Coyotes.

Bruce Kelley is one of the largest sheep owners in the state and Garrett Barrett and his father have 9500 sheep. Lost 163 sheep in 4 months by Coyotes over on North Fork of John Day this year.

Had 44 killed in 2 nights last year in same region - Our man Knoblock has cleaned them out recently so there are few left.

Nov. 30 With Elmer Williams and Adam Knoblock drove over to Zuppers Ranger Station and beyond into edge of North Fork John Day Valley to examine several poison stations put out for Coyotes before the snow.

Found no coyotes and only one track but five had been killed there recently and 3 at another place.

Saw hundreds of tracks of elk and deer, some badgers and porcupines, Jack rabbit (both kinds), snowshoe rabbits and cottontail tracks up in timber. Red squirrels, weasels and mice tracks.

Snow begins with yellow pines and gets a foot deep on high cold slopes. Was 50 inches last week. Clear and warm and pleasant on snow, Cold and

To Zuppu R.S.

Ruffed Grouse - 1 seen, scarce  
Blue Grouse - scarce -  
Golden Eagle - 1 seen above Heppner  
Pheasants - 4 seen above Heppner.  
Flickers - 2 seen  
Magpies - A few poisoned & nests seen.  
Crows - heard.

Elk - Hundreds  
Mule deer - "  
Pine squirrel - common  
Lepus townsendi - A few  
" vallecula "  
" hairs "  
Sylvilagus nuttallii "  
Porcupine - Many  
Coyote - A few  
Bobcat - scarce  
Bear - Hibernated Nov. 15,  
Badger - fresh holes  
Weasel - several tracks

foggy below to near Heppner  
No fog lower down but all cloudy.  
Heavy frost in fog belt &  
telephone wires are much thick  
with frost and many broken down.  
Has been foggy for 10 days or  
more. The fog belt seems to  
be the wheat belt.

Dec. 1, Happers to La Grande

Left Happers & AlM and drove to Pendleton where we saw the County Agent, Walter A. Holt who is also secretary of the Oregon Wool Growers Assn. He is a char thinker and says we are not giving the information to the people we should. Also suggests that Gabrielson use more publicity for our work instead of writing so much for pay, and giving so much time to outside work.

Saw John Erion, forest supervisor at Pendleton who boasts for a great increase in game, deer, elk and antelope since the coyotes were reduced in numbers.

Saw sheep men, Fred Falconer, largest owner in Oregon, 50,000 or so, & Mac Hoke, a large sheep owner.

They were much pleased with our work but wanted it pushed harder.

Happens to La Grande

Lepus campestris - a few dead in road  
Lepus wallacensis - a few dead in woods & fields  
Lepus arizonae - Tracks common on mountains  
Sylvilagus nuttallii - One dead in road  
Weasel, Elmer Williams found one killing a Lepus campestris  
near John Day River a year ago.

Golden eagles - 4 seen along road  
Magpies - a few seen  
Swainson's hawk - 1 seen on pole near road  
Shrike - 1 seen  
Otocoris - Several flocks seen  
Raven - 1 seen on road  
Ducks - many in reservoir on Little Rock  
Pheasants - a few seen along way.

At La Grande we saw  
County Agent Avery and  
Forest ranger Tucker

Missed our trappers at Meacham  
and Caneels but left road for them  
to join us at La Grande in morning.

Snow all over summit a foot to  
two feet deep. Was 30 inches last  
week but the road has been scraped  
and is clear and dry.

Smog fog up to ridge of snow and  
timber, clear above, or partly clear  
and began snowing as we reached  
La Grande. Snowed on miles but  
warm and mostly melted. The  
valley was all bare ground before  
it began.

Went to Sacajewea Hotel one  
of the best in Oregon and of very  
moderate rates.



Dec. 2

Coyotes - a few tracks  
Badgers - a few tracks and burrows  
Weasels - fresh tracks seen  
Minks - one seen on river.  
Jack rabbit - a few tracks in open  
Snowshoe rabbits - a few tracks seen  
Red squirrels  
Porcupines - Many tracks in aspen  
and hundreds of trees peeled by them.  
dozens killed.  
Thomomys hills, fresh on snow.

Dec. 2 La Grande to Baker

Went with trappers Robbs and  
Kinnison over a paerson line  
Southwest of La Grande in the  
upper Valley of Grand Ronde  
River, but got no coyotes.  
Five had been picked up there  
before the snow but a few are  
still there. Up in timbered  
country above the fog and  
over 6 inches of solid snow.  
Clear and sunny and warm up  
there. Chilly and dull in the  
fog and below. A little new  
snow in Grand Ronde Valley.

After 4 PM drove to  
Baker and got hold of  
trapper Shoemaker and planned  
trip with him in morning.

Baker Oregon, Dec. 3.

*Lynx vinta* - 1 big male, 27 lbs., in trap  
Caught with scent, fish and other smells.

Coyote - A few fresh tracks

Badger - a few holes

*Lepus deserticola* - Abundant

*Sylvilagus nuttallii* - Tracks com.

*Brachylagus*, abundant. holes, many burrows.

Weasel - fresh tracks abundant

Roughleg hawk, 1 seen.

Sage grouse - 50 or more.

Coot, one with tame geese in yard

Ravens, heard

Crows, 3 seen

Magpies - A few seen.

Pheasant - 1 seen. Many at Herford

Snipe 1 northern

Dec. 3 - Baker to John Day

Went out with Trapper Shacwaker  
and got a big bobcat in trap,  
weighed 27 lbs and had been in  
trap 2 days and nights.

Found a few fresh coyote traps  
but did not get any coyotes. Did not  
have time to visit all the baits.

Talked with Charles Cotton, sheep man.

Snow 3 inches in town, 6 inches  
outside and a foot on high ridges.  
Foggy but warm.

Left Baker at 3:30 PM, reached John Day  
at 5:30, over Daley Mountain and  
up Burnt River valley, then over  
mount to Prairie & John Day.  
Snow over ridges but all bare ground  
in John Day Valley. Warm, foggy  
at Baker and over ranges.

Met John Lawrence, trapper at  
John Day. Saw one deer and lots of  
tracks.

Dec. 14 - John Day & Baker to Burns  
John Lawrence, coyote hunter at  
John Day came with us to Bear  
Valley on head of Selwies River  
and went over his patron's live.  
Got one coyote and 3 others had  
come to a dead horse where the  
ravens had eaten up all his  
fats. Six ravens were still at  
the horse and many others over the  
valley. Saw a rough leg and a  
red tail with one eagle but  
no other birds except magpies.

Lots of deer tracks in timber  
and some snowshoe rabbits,  
both jack rabbits, cottontails and  
pygmy rabbits abundant in Bear  
Valley. Saw one pygmy and lots of  
deer & tracks, eating sage leaves  
entirely.

Many old badger holes, some  
weasel tracks.

Had lunch at Smea and  
reached Burns at 5 P.M.  
Found a good hotel at Burns, The  
Welcome.

Snow a foot deep in Bear Valley  
but clear and sunny part of day.  
Very little snow at Burns.

Saw Dr. Hebbard and went  
to office of R. M. Durvean to see  
3 buffalo skulls from Mathews  
Lake bed. He gave me one and  
has promised the others to Ray  
Conway, manager of Oregon Motors  
Association at Portland who  
wants to place them in the  
state museum at Salem.

Met several stock men but  
could not find our trapper.

Kaus - Pinte name for a root, probably  
same as eppe - Cann gaiduari -  
Honovers - Pinte name for loaves

Mr. Brown says Capt. Louis  
at Burns is still living.

He was captured when a boy at  
a battle with the Pintes at Card  
on Snake Creek

He also tells me that the Pinte  
vocabulary by Dr. Moeris has been  
recently published by Bu. Ethnology.

Sue, 5, Burns to Mathews Caves  
Drove to Crane and then south  
and east to Mr. A.E. Browers  
ranch a couple of miles beyond  
Mathews Caves. Our trapper,  
Walter Southland, was off on a  
trip and did not return so  
we missed him but had a good  
visit with Mr. Brower, a sheep  
and stock rancher who has been  
here since 1884. He knows  
Capt. Louis and many others  
of the Pinte Indians and much  
of the early history of the country.  
Gave me many good records  
Went through Mathews  
Cave with flash light but  
could not find a bat.  
The cave was damp but warm,  
about 55° I should guess.  
There is a boat on the water but  
we did not go in it.

Saw many ravens, about 17

Magpies — a few

Eagle — 1 dead by telegraph pole

Terrapins roughly — 2

Red tail hawk — 2

Horned larks — 2

Grizzly bear — Skull found in Mathews Lake near mouth of Selkies River on dry bed of Lake given me for B.S. by G. N. Jamieson, Mayor of Burns.

#### Dec. 16 Burns to Bend.

Took all of forenoon to get buffalo skulls from dry bed of Mathews Lake, got 10 and other bones and sent in big box. Saw many more bones and skeletons, and a big perfect skull of old bull in possession of J. O. Ausmus at Lawn. He wants to keep it but may give it to us sometime. He gave me one good cow skull and base of horns of elk and went and showed us where to find the buffalo skulls.

The lake is almost dry and thousands of acres are hard and cracked where the water has gone down. Some of the buffalo bones were out near the water, 2 miles from shore, many others near shore and some are found out in the tules on the edges of the lake.

Oct. 4, Mahan's Lake.

Snow Geese, 20000 seen in great flocks  
like snowfields on dry lake bed.

Canada geese - 2000 or more seen in  
flocks on dry lake bed.

Marsh Mallards, 2000 seen near water  
Golden eagles, one or two seen near Burns  
and near lake below west of Burns

Bald eagles, one ad. & one yg. near  
Lawn, the adult in fiver.

Roughleg hawk, 3 or 4 seen

Red tail, 3 or 4 seen.

Ravens, numerous, 40 or more seen

Magpies, 1 20 or more seen.

Snowy most of way to Bend  
but no snow there and clear  
at Bend. Cloudy all day at  
Burns and lake.

No antelope seen but said  
to be common along road.  
Country very dry and feed scarce.

Reached Bend at 5:30 P.M.

Made 140 miles in 3 1/2 hours.

40 to 50 miles an hour on good  
roads. Road mostly straight,  
one stretch of 30 miles as  
straight as an arrow.

Ther's Sisters and Jefferson  
show big and white in evening.

Spent evening with Tupper E. T.  
Halbrook, between Bend and  
Redmond.

Redmond -

Eagles 2 seen  
Roughlegs, 3 "  
Magpies - numerous

Mr. & Mrs. Wilson are very kind  
proprietors of the Redmond Hotel  
the second best of eastern Oregon  
and almost as satisfactory as the  
Sagehen at LaGrande.

Dec. 17, Road to Klamath

Went out with Halbrook  
to four of his poison stations  
but got only one coyote  
and one *Peromyscus*, both  
dead on the snow near  
the sheep carcasses used as  
a station. The coyote had  
gone 50 yards and the mouse  
lay close to a ball of lead  
and strychnine on which it  
had been nibbling.

A cold morning,  $21^{\circ}$  +  
at Redmond but soon  
thawing in the sunshine.

Wonderful views of the  
Three Sisters, Jefferson and  
other peaks along the Cascades.  
Left Redmond at 2 P.M.  
and reached Klamath  
falls at 4 P.M. Good road  
all the way, well scraped.



20  
No snow at Redwood or  
Bevel but it soon appeared  
and from a few inches grew deeper  
to a foot in the lodge pole pines  
and two feet on the summit at  
5604 feet. Then shallow in the  
Klamath valley and mostly bare  
ground at Klamath Falls.

Klamath Lake about half frozen  
over, too deep to see birds.  
Stopped at Hotel Hall.

Mr. Hall is a genial proprietor.

Dec. 8 Tule Lake

Hutchings geese, 100,000 on Tule Lake  
Cackling geese 200,000 " "  
Snow geese 200,000 " "  
Canada geese, 2,000 on Char Lake  
Ducks 100,000 on Tule Lake  
Coots - a dozen in river last P.M.  
Dabchick, 1 " " "  
Blue heron, 1 shot, *Microtus* in stomach  
Redtail 4 seen  
Roughleg 4 " "  
Swampson, 2 "  
Marsh hawk 3 "  
Prairie Falcon 2  
Duck hawk 1  
Long eared Owl 1  
Sparrow hawk 1  
Shrikes 2  
Robins 200  
Solitaires 3  
Bluebirds 7  
Horned Larks 50  
Magpies 20

Dec. 8, Klamath Falls,

Drove over to Bonanza to see  
trapper Chas Glasgow  
but found he was out on his  
trap line. Then drove to  
Merrill to see trapper Clint  
Conklin but he was out on  
his line. Arranged to see  
Conklin this evening and to  
join Glasgow at 9 in  
the morning.

Went down to Tule Lake  
below Merrill to see the  
geese and ducks and found  
both in large numbers.  
Got a cackling goose, a snow  
goose and great blue heron  
for stomachs. The heron had  
eaten *Microtus montanus*.  
The cackling goose pigweed seeds  
and green stuff. The snow goose.

Klamath to Baranaga Dec 9.

Magpies - 5 or 6

Canada geese 14 flying over

Other geese - big flocks

Coots 2

Robins 200 or more in a flock -  
many others among junipers.

Said to stay all winter - known birds  
of Juniperus occidentalis -

Myadestes - Many seen in junipers  
and heard singing in a soft twitter.

Stay all winter -

Mountain Bluebirds, 6 seen.

Swans - said to be dying in Warner  
Lake, 4 found dead. Others can not  
fly. Probably starving.

Dec. 9 - Klamath Falls.

Drove to Baranaga to see trapper  
Charles Glasgow and found him in the  
shed stretching 4 coyote skins he got  
yesterday. Went with him to east  
end of Valley to several poison stations  
but found only one dead Peromyscus,  
got his record for 3 years back  
and many good notes.

He is a very intelligent young  
man, just married last June  
to a very pleasant wife and an  
excellent cook. We staid to  
dinner.

In afternoon saw Capt.  
Chas. Applegate and wrote  
up all the notes I could  
his car packing to start  
for home in morning.

1/10 to the Mountains Dec 10.

Dec. 12 Left Klamath 10:30 AM  
S D for Reno and Hazel via Altheus  
Ry. Through Merrill and across  
dry bed of Tule Lake, then over  
lava beds to Pit River Valley  
and up it to Altheus, then south  
over divide & Madeline Plains.

Much warmer in Pit River Valley  
than at Klamath, no snow or ice  
and cattle all out in pasture, a number  
of them - Big flock of blackbirds  
and lot of meadowlarks.

Saw 30 antelope close to train  
half way between House Rock and  
Wendell, Calif.

Dec. 10. Klamath & Alturas & Rivers.  
Blue herons - a dozen in ditches in Tule Lake.  
Coots, a few near Alturas.  
Eagles - 1 at Tule Lake, 1 at Alturas.  
Magpies - A few  
Blackbirds. Flocks of 5000 at Alturas  
Mockers, 20 at Alturas

Fallou, Nev. Dec. 11.

Mule deer head from Kingston  
near Austin, Nevada, & point buck  
head mounted by Anna Bailey Mills.

Very light gray, with black  
forehead and nose band and side spots  
on lower lip. No median line of black  
on lower lip, no black on ears, black  
eyering very narrow. White extensive  
and very pure, whole face and wide circle  
around eyes, <sup>almost</sup> pure white, throat, most of  
lower lip, and stripes on upper lips pure  
white; ears with white edges at base and tip  
and white stripes inside.

General color light gray, darkest along nose.

See photo -

Killed Oct. 3, 1930. Forest Ranger  
A.R. Jorgenson. Head mounted by Anna R. Mills.  
Very pale and with clear black and  
white markings like eremicus -

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Fallou, Nevada, Dec. 11, 1930.  
Mule deer buck killed in Hunter Creek  
Canyon 12 miles west or SW. of Reno.  
Killed about Nov. 15, 1913, by  
Vernon Mills, a 4 point buck  
weighing 140 lbs dressed.

General color of head and neck buffy  
brown gray, darker brownish black  
along mane <sup>and stripes in area of eyes</sup>, forehead, heavy eye  
ring, nose band and 3 chin stripes  
black; face, narrow eye rings,  
throat, most of lower lip and narrow  
stripes on upper lips white or whitish,  
inside of ears mainly white.

Top of tail all white but tip.

Not salpimurus but nearer to  
maerotis in color than to eximius

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### Actual Rise in Soda Lake Shown by Record

That the rise in Soda Lake during the last six years has been only seven and a half feet, instead of sixty, as indicated in an interview published in The Standard last week, is the fact learned from inspection of records at the reclamation office here which has been keeping data on the level of this lake for nearly 23 years.

In all that period, the figures show, the lake has risen 52.2 feet instead of ninety as previously indicated.

The period of most rapid rise of the lake level was between 1920 and 1926 when the gain was 23.2 feet.

During the last five years, the period of least gain, the lake has gained elevation at the rate of about a foot a year. The elevation of the large lake on November, this year, was 3990.3 feet above sea level.

Elevation of the little lake has been about three feet higher for several years. In 1912 the difference in the elevations of the two lakes was eight feet.

Dec 3, 1930  
Board of

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Dec 3, 1930

Board Okay



### Carson Link is Ignored

The start being made this year toward building the Carson City-Leeteville highway, pioneer stretch of the Lincoln route, is not being continued by the highway department.

Federal aid mileage between Mound House and Leeteville was "borrowed" to complete a job in the eastern part of the state with the understanding that it would be restored as soon as the next allotment of federal aid mileage were made available.

The Carson City-Mound House link of the pioneer trail of the Lincoln highway, which had been retained, had been overlooked by the present state highway department until attention was called thereto by H. R. Mighels of the Carson City Appeal.

The department responded with action in terms of actual construction when its members' attention was called to the oversight.

But the department admits nothing of the "borrowed" mileage from Mound House to Leeteville.

The tentative program for 1931 is making use of an available ten miles of federal aid for use between the city limits of Las Vegas and the Boulder dam site.

### Durkee Makes Explanation

His department has been overruled, insofar as mere promises are concerned, by the federal bureau of public roads, says S. C. Durkee, state

Fallon, Nevada,

Soda Lake near Fallon has risen about 60 feet in the past 20 years and is now almost full to the lowest edge of the rim. The water in it is probably 250 feet deep and fairly pure since it has filled up with the rising water table from irrigation.

It fills an old crater or cinder cone of volcanic origin and the cone rises 100 feet above the water nearly around the lake. The lake is about a mile wide and a little longer, never freezes, clear and still and beautiful. Thousands of ducks are in it now and in winter when the shallow lakes freeze over it is the resting place of innumerable ducks, geese, swans and other water birds. It has steep shores and little food for birds but is important for a refuge.

just west and north of it  
are dozens of small lakes and  
sloughs of recent origin, mostly  
not very deep and with sedge borders  
where water birds feed and rest  
when not being shot at.

Some of these might well be also  
included in a refuge as the land  
around them is rough sand dunes  
and sedges entirely worthless for  
any farm purposes. Part of it  
is foot land and at the wall sections  
of railroad land is of little value.  
Some has sold for 2 dollars an  
acre.

A considerable refuge is being  
planned in the Carson Sink  
or Stillwater Sink country near  
Fallon and Soda Lake and  
perhaps some of these other ponds  
should be included.

Coyotes about Fallon are rather numerous and kill many sheep and turkeys, often coming into small pastures close to ranch buildings to catch them.

One man has been obliged to corral his sheep at night to protect them and thus the coyotes come in and kill them in the pastures during the daytime.

There are so many dogs around that no trapping or poisoning is allowed and only an occasional coyote is shot. The sheep on small farms would add much to the prosperity of this region.

A badger killed a lot of chickens for a neighbor's wife at Fallon, Nev. and carried into its burrow. When dug out the burrow yielded 27 full grown hens and one badger.

Fallen, 21 Nov.

Jack rabbits are scarce and have been decreasing for over a year. Are much less numerous than last spring but were most numerous a year ago last spring. Some dead rabbits have been seen this last summer.

Coyotes are common and kill sheep and turkeys -

Dec. 12, Fallon, Nevada.

Drove down to the Carson River Sink, away east of Stillwater to see what birds were still there.

The water was mostly frozen over but we could see about 150 swans on the ice in small open spaces and hear a lot more over in the tules where they could not be seen. A few ducks and geese could be seen and heard at a distance but we could not get near them.

The area proposed for a refuge is good waterfowl land and water with extensive breeding grounds for ducks, geese and waders. Cattle must be kept off in the breeding season and probably at all times, so the tules, grass and weeds will remain as food and cover.

Dec. 13 On Cam

Daylight came about Hallish Nevada and from there to east of Wells the jack rabbit tracks were exceedingly numerous, tramping the snow down like a heavy yard along the sides of the track.

After entering Utah I saw no more rabbit tracks or very few for about an hour or until near Montello, Utah, where again numerous.

The tracks were not seen far east of Montello and it seems they are mostly in ranch valleys, where there is grass and sagebrush and Bigelovia, not in barren unoccupied stretches of country. They evidently gather where the best food is.

Salt Lake is all open except a little ice along shores.

A few gulls and ravens seen.

Driving at Ogden but not  
much snow on ground. Drove  
all the way to Evanston but  
no snow at Green River at  
dark. A little snow at Rock  
Springs at 9 P.M.

A warm day and very  
comfortable in car. No  
ice reports all day.

Dec. 14, On N.P. Train

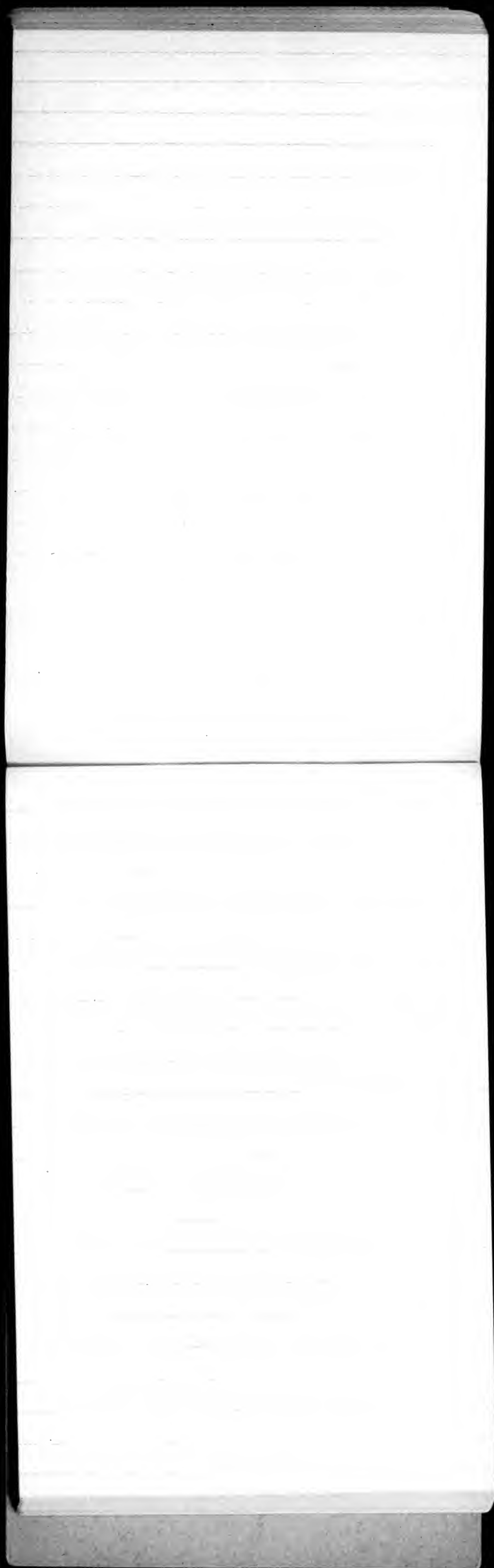
Dawnlight somewhere near  
Cheyenne but out in Nebraska  
before I got up. All day across  
Nebraska and entered Omaha  
at dark.

A little snow on ground in  
morning but it grew warmer as  
we progressed and soon the ground  
was bare and cattle grazing out in  
pastures, grass and alfalfa show  
a touch of green and winter wheat  
is green over large fields.  
Lots of corn in stacks and piles  
on the ground, but more in great  
circular woven wire tanks that  
must hold 1000 bushels or more.  
Some open at the top and some  
covered with hay. Much  
stock being fed. Good crops  
and a rich farm country.

Train slow but smooth and I wrote all day.  
Omaha at dark.



Dec. 15 To Chicago & east  
Arrived at Chicago on  
C. M. & St. P. at 7:30 AM,  
Left on B. & O. at 10 AM,  
No snow last night at Omaha  
or the eastern half of Nebraska  
but in middle of night there  
was snow in Iowa and at  
daylight at Elgin 5 or 6 inches  
of snow. At Chicago 2 or 3  
inches of snow and snowing  
fast. Snow tapered off in  
southern Indiana and none in  
Ohio but ice on ponds.  
A little snow met in eastern Ohio  
and increasing till after dark  
western Pennsylvania.



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY.**

**WASHINGTON.**

**OFFICIAL BUSINESS.**

**PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE  
TO AVOID PAYMENT OF  
POSTAGE. \$300.**

**U. S. Department of Agriculture,**

**Washington, D. C.**

**Bureau of Biological Survey.**

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Siminasho (Simewash)